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## WINTERISATION

The Swift Group recommends the following winterisation points for customers:

### Servicing

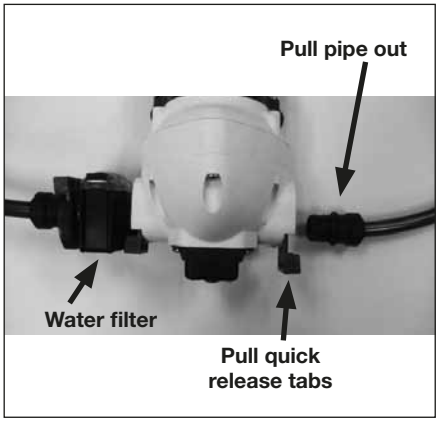
Arrange (in advance) the yearly service and habitation check, if the motorhome's next service is due while the vehicle is stored.

### Plumbing

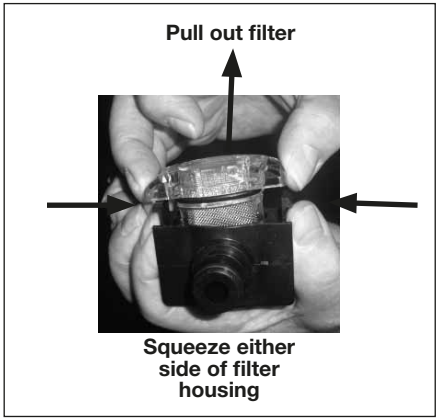
Water expands as it is frozen, and so trapped water, when it expands, can damage the tap / valve /pump or pipe it is trapped within. For this reason, (in addition to reasons of hygiene), the water system should be fully drained when not in use, particularly in colder weather.

- Depending on model, open the fresh water tank drain valve to drain the tank, and leave open or remove the tank drain bung inside the tank, and leave open
- Open the drain valve (yellow handle) next to water heater, and leave open.
- Fully open all the taps and shower mixer, move mixer position to the middle, and leave all taps in the open position.
- Unscrew the shower head and shower hose, shake out remaining water and allow water to drain. It is advised to leave the shower head and hose disconnected.
- Run pump for a short time, until all water is expelled.
- After a short while the majority of water will have left the plumbing system. At this point however it is still important to ensure that the pump itself is 'dry'. During this part of the winterisation, a suitable absorbent cloth or container should be used to catch a small amount of spilled water that will result.

Disconnect the pipe work from the pump by pulling the blue quick release tabs, at either side of the pump, at right angles to the pipe work, then pulling the pipe and connectors from the pump. See Fig.1 Run the pump for a short while to expel any remaining water within the pump.




This is a good time to de-assemble and clean the pump filter. Squeeze either side of the filter housing to release the retaining tabs and pull the filter cassette out of the housing. See Fig 2




- Fit the cowl cover to the Truma Ultrastore, model specific.

- Open the waste tank drain valve, collecting the waste water in a suitable container, and leave open. Dispose of the waste water in a designated waste water area, clean waste pipes and tanks using a sterilising fluid. See "Waste Tank" section under services Page 45

**Electrical**

If vehicle is being stored while connected to 230v Mains Hook-up:

- Ensure that the leisure battery is connected and the 20A local fuse(s) is connected.
- The isolator switch on PSU should be in the 'ON' position, however. the control panel should be switched 'OFF'.
- If Alde system is installed, there is a frost protection setting, which can be used. See Alde user instruction manual.
- Vehicles can be left in this condition for extended periods, with the charger operating to maintain the battery. However, periodic maintenance and inspection is recommended, this should include the battery condition.

If vehicle is being stored not connected to 230v Mains Hook-up:

- Charge the leisure battery for 24 hours prior to placing motorhome in storage.
- Ensure the isolation button on PSU is in the 'OFF' position.
- Disconnect the negative terminal of the leisure battery or baterries.
- The battery should not be adversely affected by winter temperatures but the level of charge should be maintained to maximise the life span of the battery. This can be achieved using an automotive type battery charger as and when required.
- Disconnect the vehicle battery negative terminal. Check the charge of the battery every three months. (See Vehicle Inactivity section in the Fiat/Peugeot handbook).

**Gas system**

- Ensure the gas supply is isolated at the gas bottle, and ensure that the gas manifold taps are off.
- Check the age and condition of the high pressure gas hose and regulator, and replace if required.

**Appliances**

Check the battery expiry date on the smoke alarm and CO detector and replace or remove as required.

- Ensure the fridge is turned off.
- Clean the inside of the fridge.
- Prop the fridge door open, and if possible, the internal freezer compartment door for ventilation.
- Fit fridge vent winter covers (if available).
- Ensure all hob / oven / microwave surfaces are clean.
- If the motorhome is going to be left connected to 230v supply while not in use, ensure the microwave is unplugged.
- Clean the toilet and empty the cassette and lubricate the seals with an acid free lubricant such as Thetford High Grade Seal Lubricant. See Thetford toilet Users manual

**Exterior (Body / Chassis)**

- Ensure that all windows, skylights and access doors are closed and secured.
- Ensure all fixed ventilation points (high and low) are clear from debris and obstructions.
- Ensure the vehicle is not parked where falling debris (i.e. leaves, tree sap) could cause damage.
- Avoid leaving the vehicle parked in soft ground, long grass or a potential area where standing water may form.
- Lubricate relevant points on the chassis.

**Wheels and Tyres**

- Do not store in one position with partially deflated tyres. The tyre walls will suffer and do present a real danger of blow outs, especially when travelling at faster speeds than are allowed in the UK.
  The wheels should be turned every couple of weeks. If you are removing the wheels, follow the jacking procedure for changing a wheel.
  Check your tyres regularly for signs of age and deterioration, particularly wear, cracking and blistering. If in doubt consult a reputable tyre fitter.
- A purpose made cover maybe used, but please ensure the cover is a good fit, breathable and securely fitted.
  **Note:** A poorly fitted cover can rub and damage the bodywork. Non-breathable covers will encourage mould to grow.

**Interior (Furniture / furnishings)**

- Open all lockers and internal doors, to ensure good circulation.
- Remove cushions and store them in a dry location or ensure all cushions are placed in a well ventilated area.
- Close all blinds and curtains. Customers are reminded to check the tension on blinds after storage if left closed for long periods.
- Thoroughly ventilate the motorhome by opening doors or windows periodically.
- Placing water absorbent crystals in the van during the winter months, will help reduce moisture levels and mould growth.
- We do not recommend leaving portable heaters in the van unattended.

**Recomissioning the Water System**

Re-connect the water pump by positioning the pipe connectors into the pump housing and pushing the blue tabs into position. It is advisable, after a period on non-use, to flush the water system with a sterilising fluid such as Milton 2. Fill the fresh water tank with water and sterilising fluid (Refer to sterilising fluid instructions for the amount to use). Turn the pump on and open all the taps, ensuring that the water drains away safely to the waste tank. When the waste tank is full empty the fluid into a designated waste water area. Re-fill the tank with fresh water and flush through the system as described above; repeat this until all traces of the sterilising fluid have been flushed out. (See "priming the Water System" and "Waste Tank" sections on page 44/45)

Prepare the toilet system by adding water and Thetford fluid to the toilet waste tank. See "Preparing the Thetford Cassette Toilet for Use" on page 146.

**Appliances**

Before starting motor caravanning after storage, check all gas appliances and electrical points.

**Note:** Preferably not less than once a year, the electrical installation should be inspected and tested by a qualified electrician.

After storage it is advisable to air the Motorhome and clean throughout, especially cooking appliances and the refrigerator.

Replace the bedding if they were removed for storage.

**Important:** Always follow the manufacturers recommended procedures after use of fitted equipment in the Motorhome, before storing for any length of time

## GENERAL CARE

**For care of the vehicle battery please refer to the Fiat handbook in section 'Trouble Shooting'.**

All moving parts should be checked for free operation.

Clean all cooking appliances and refrigerator. Lubrication should be carried out at the points illustrated in the general notes on chassis maintenance.

Charge up the on-board battery every 2 months.

Leave the refrigerator door open. Leave furniture doors and lockers open to allow air to circulate fully.

**Modifications - DIY work**
Owners need to be aware that carrying out DIY modifications to your motorhome may in certain instances, invalidate the warranty cover and could also affect the safety and structure of the vehicle.

**WD40 IS NOT RECOMMENDED FOR EXTERNAL OR INTERNAL USE**

WD40 attacks paintwork and sealants. If a lubricant is required for Interior hinges, Sliding door tracks, Bottle box hinges, Exterior door hinges, Plastic tracking etc. We recommend "Ambersil 40+" this is readily available from most DIY/Automotive retailers including Halford's

Before carrying out any DIY work within the warranty period, please check with your nearest dealer or contact Supercare customer services on 01482 875740 for advice.

**Paintwork**
Proper care involves washing the motorhome regularly with a mild detergent rinsing with cold water and leathering off. A good quality, similar coloured car wax may also be applied which will make washing even easier.

Please note: Do not use abrasive-eleaning agents, on the exterior of your motorhome. Stubborn stains may be removed using a soft cloth and mild detergent.

**WARNING: Overzealous use of detergents may loosen the decals and/or badges.**

**Acrylic Windows**
The windows in your motorhome are fully double glazed and, with care, will remain sparkling and scratch free.

**Acrylic (Plastic) Window Condensation**

Unlike domestic double glazed windows, your caravan / Motorhomes window are not vacuum sealed instead the double panes of acrylic plastic with are fitted with a breathable plug on the inner pane.

It is possible, in weather where extremes in temperatures occur between night and day, that customer will notice condensation between the panes. The same phenomenon may also occur when washing your vehicle on a hot day.

The condensation should clear itself when the ambient conditions return to normal and the air between the panes dries. However, if this is taking a longer time than required, the breathable plug (normally located in the top corner of the window) can be removed, with a pin or sharp object, and replaced when the panes are dry. Care should be taken when doing this.

**Acrylic (Plastic) Window Cleaning**

The material used to produce most caravan and Motorhome windows is acrylic plastic. While the acrylic used is very durable, it is able to be scratched with relative ease and therefore, care must be taken when clearing your vehicle not to use aggressive clearing products. Equally, care should be taken when using a drying cloth that it is clean and free from grit.

**Keeping Your Acrylic Windows Sparkling**
For small scratches, it is possible to use a liquid metal polish or a proprietary acrylic

polish of a suitable grade dependant on the severity of the scratches.

**Cleaning Windows**
Wash down as you would your car. Do not use a sponge on dirty windows. When all the dirt has been removed, dry with a leather or similar type of cloth. The catches and stays do not require lubricating.

**Removing Tar**
Use a proprietary tar remover on your double glazed windows; (available from most leading car accessory or do-it-yourself shops). Do not use petrol or other chemicals.

Note: The use of a pressure washer on the exterior of your motorhome is not recommended as this may damage the transfers.

## CONDENSATION

**What is condensation?**
Condensation is the change of water from its gaseous form (water vapour) into liquid water. Condensation generally occurs in the atmosphere when warm air rises, cools and looses its capacity to hold water vapour.

As a result, excess water vapour condenses to form droplets.

**Why condensation occurs**
Condensation occurs when warm moist air meets a cold surface. The risk of condensation therefore depends upon how moist the air is and how cold the surfaces of the vehicle are. Both of these depend to some extent on how the vehicle is used. In a Motorhome with a cold outside wall, if the temperature of the wall falls below the dew point temperature, it is quite normal for condensation to occur predominantly on the external walls.

**When condensation occurs**
Condensation occurs usually in winter, because the Caravan or Motorhome is cold and because skylights, windows and doors are opened less and therefore the moist air cannot escape.

**How condensation occurs**
Condensation occurs often for short periods in bathroom and kitchen areas because of the steamy atmosphere, and quite frequently for long periods in unheated areas; it also occurs in cupboards or corners of rooms where ventilation and movement of air is restricted.

**What is important**
Two things are particularly important:

- To provide ventilation so that moist air can escape.
- To use the heating reasonably.

**How can you prevent condensation**
Provide ventilation so that moist air can escape.

a) Good ventilation of kitchens when washing, cooking or drying damp clothes is essential. Use the electric element of the space heater will help, when washing, cooking, or drying damp clothes, and particularly when the windows show signs of misting up.

b) If there is no mains electric supply and therefore you cannot use the electrical element of the space heater, open the skylights or windows slightly, but keep the door closed as much as possible.

c) After showering, keep the bathroom window or skylights open, and shut the bathroom door long enough to dry off the room.

d) In all other areas provide some ventilation. Fixed ventilation is provided in accordance with BS EN 721: 1998 this is through skylights and ‘heki roof lights’ in the roofs and from ventilators through the floor under cookers, motorhome step well, doors and in bed boxes it is important not to block these.

Too much ventilation in cold weather is uncomfortable and wastes heat. All that is needed is a very slightly opened window or skylights. Opening a skylight or ‘Heki; rooflights partially or windows opened to about 1cm opening will usually be sufficient.

Provide reasonable heating

a) Do not use portable paraffin or flueless gas heaters at all.

b) If drying damp clothes or towels, open a window enough to ventilate the area and turn on the electric element of the space heater but do not hang items over the heater.

c) Try to make sure that all areas are at least partially heated. Condensation most often occurs in unheated areas.

d) To prevent condensation, the heat has to keep room surfaces reasonably warm. It can take a long time for a cold Motorhome to warm up, so it is better to have a small amount of heat for a long period than a lot of heat for a short time.

e) Motorhomes are left unoccupied and unheated and can get very cold. Whenever possible, it is best to put the heating on at a low level before setting off on a journey in the winter to pre heat the vehicle.

f) In houses, the rooms above a heated room benefit to some extent from heat rising through the floor. In Motorhomes this does not happen.

Motorhomes use only carefully selected insulation materials but unlike most rooms at home they have all outside walls, so they lose heat through all walls as well as the roof and floor.

Even in a well insulated motorhome with reasonable ventilation it is likely during cold weather if the temperature is less than 10°C that condensation will occur. Ideally the temperature should be kept about 20°C although this is not always possible.

**Mould growth**

Any sign of mould growth is an indication of the presence of moisture and if caused by condensation gives warning that heating or ventilation, may require improving.

**Changing Exterior Bulbs**
**ALWAYS REPLACE LIKE FOR LIKE**

For individual replacement bulb specification, refer to your Specification and base vehicle Handbook.

Generally road lighting bulbs can be easily replaced by unscrewing and removing the lens from the exterior of the caravan or motorhome.

## INTERIOR

Follow these guidelines to ensure your investment is receiving the very best attention.

**Side Walls, Roof Lining**
A simple wipe over with a damp cloth and a very mild detergent is all that is needed.

**Soft Furnishings**
Should be vacuumed occasionally to remove grit and sand and help to keep its smart appearance and ensure long life. The upholstery can be cleaned with a mild, reputable upholstery cleaner. It is recommended that the curtains and pelmets are specialist cleaned only. The foam used in cushions are manufactured to meet fire regulations. It requires time to return to its normal position after prolonged use.

Clean and dust the upholstery and if possible remove before placing the Motorhome into winter storage. Alternatively, stand the cushions on their edges to allow circulation of air. This will reduce the possibility of dampness from condensation. Keep curtains or blinds closed, to minimise fading of furniture.

If the blinds and/or flyscreens remain down for a prolonged period of time, re-tensioning of the springs will be necessary before re-use.

**IMPALA FABRIC**

The Impala fabric fitted to some Swift Group products is a luxury stain resistant durable fabric.

In most cases, wet wipes are enough to clean a stain from the fabric, however, for certain stains stronger solutions are required.

**Care Instructions**

**General dirt and stains**

1. Firstly, excess liquid should be blotted with an absorbent paper or cloth so as to remove most of the liquid from the surface. After this, rub the fabric gently with a white paper or white cloth to absorb the remaining dampness.

2. The easiest way to clean is using a wet wipe or using a clean white cloth dampened with plain water. Gently rub the area of stain using small circular motions. Do not soak the fabric in the solution as excessive soaking can cause damage. More persistent stains may need a solution of 95% water and roughly 5% soap (a gentle washing up liquid is recommended).

3. Allow the cleaned area to dry completely and then gently brush or vacuum with a soft brush the area that was cleaned using strokes in the direction of the pile of the fabric.

4. More persistent stains may need a second treatment after allowing the fabric to dry. Stains of ballpoint pen, grease etc may not come out easily using the above treatment and cleaning with a diluted solution of ISOPROPYL ALCOHOL (sometimes known as “rubbing alcohol” available from pharmacies) using a white cloth will then usually help.

**Cleaning Solutions**

Please refer to the table below for the best cleaning solutions for different types of stains:

| Staining agent | Clean water | 95% water / 5% washing up liquid | Diluted IPA Alcohol | Wet wipes |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Black ink | | ● | ● | |
| Blue ink | | | ● | |
| Marker pen | | | ● | ● |
| Coffee | | | ● | ● |
| Tea | | | | ● |
| Red wine | | | | ● |
| Soft drinks | ● | ● | ● | ● |
| Milk | ● | ● | ● | ● |
| Ketchup | | | ● | |
| Mustard | | | ● | |
| Steak sauce | | ● | | |
| Soy sauce | | | | ● |
| Mayonnaise | ● | ● | ● | ● |
| Butter | | | | ● |
| Salad oil | | | | ● |
| Chocolate | | | | ● |
| Make-up | | | ● | ● |
| Face cream | ● | ● | ● | ● |
| Suntan Oil | | ● | ● | ● |
| Suntan Lotion | | | | ● |
| Lipstick | | | ● | |
| Urine | | | | ● |
| Shoe Polish | | | ● | |
| Engine Grease | | | ● | |

**Note :** Impala fabric resists most household stains. Whilst Impala fabric is resistant to and drastically reduces household stains it comes in contact with it, it may not be resistant to all liquids, chemicals or other materials whether containing toxic substances or otherwise and in particular the fabric is not resistant to bleaches, acids or other liquids or materials containing destructive or toxic substances. We therefore cannot accept any responsibility for misuse of Impala fabric by allowing such liquids, materials or substances coming into contact with it.

Further details of this material can be found on the manufacturers website: http://www.impalafabrics.co.uk/

**Work Surfaces**
You should not stand very hot items on any of the work surfaces.

**Cupboard Catches**
It is advisable to lightly oil all cupboard catches, sliding bolts and hinges from time to time.

**Bathroom, Shower Room and Kitchen Equipment**
All the Thermoplastic parts in these areas have easy clean surfaces. To ensure long life and prevent damage you must not use any cleaning materials at all and ensure water temperatures do not exceed 70°C, (putting cold water in first is suggested). After every use, it is essential that you rinse with clean water only and wipe with a soft damp cloth.

Failure to follow these simple instructions may result in premature failure or cracking which will not be covered by any guarantees (including extended warranties).

**Furniture**
A simple wipe over with a damp cloth should be all that is required. Polishing with a proprietary brand of wax polish enhances and maintains furniture in showroom condition.

It must be remembered that because the frames of some doors are made of ash, which is a natural product, they can be affected by temperature and humidity and may bow under certain conditions. As conditions change they should revert to their original positions.

**Kitchen Drainer and Cutting Board**
You should not stand hot items on to these items. To wash use only warm soapy water, do not use chemicals and bleach.

**Changing Interior Bulbs**
Remove the lens or lamp shade to access the bulb.

**ALWAYS REPLACE LIKE FOR LIKE**

For individual replacement bulb specification, refer to your Specification Handbook.

**Bulb Replacement and Type**

Full details of the bulbs used with your Swift Group product can be found in your Technical Handbook. Details of how to change the various bulbs can be found within our Practical Guides, located on Swift Talk (http://www.swift-talk.co.uk/forum/topics/swift-group-practical-manuals)

## QUARTET AND FORTE DOUBLE BED MAKE UP INSTRUCTIONS

**Step 1**

Rotate passenger's and driver's seat. Use release catch on side of forward seat and pull the support frame from the bed base.

**Step 2**

Remove the cushions from the forward facing seat (base and back rest cushions) and fold the base over.

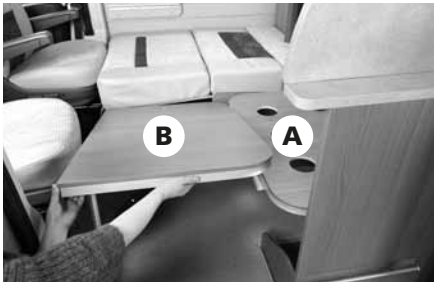
**Step 3**

Arrange the cushions as shown. Note the seat base and back rests are tapered. Ensure the narrow part of the cushions are positioned in the centre of the bed.

**Step 4**

Lift the kitchen work top and remove the double bed extension from under the kitchen work top. Put the cushions on the bed already made up.

**Step 5**




Put Board 'A' (with holes) on the side supports with the round corners facing the front of the van. Ensure the top is located tight on the black retainers. And that the seat belt stalk is under the bed top.

**Step 6**

Fold down the legs of Board ‘B’ and hook the opposite end onto the hooks of board ‘A’.

Fold out the mattress and put in place.

## CARING FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

After many years of service you may decide that your motorhome has become beyond economic repair and should be disposed of. Please ensure that you comply with the end of life vehicle legislation and take it to an authorised treatment facility where it will be properly dealt with to minimise any negative environmental impact. The transaction will be logged at the DVLA, identifying that you are no longer the owner of the vehicle.